

Std.: VIII

Time: 1½ hrs.
Total Score: 40

INSTRUCTIONS:

- The cool off time of 15 minutes is to be used for reading the question paper.
- You are not supposed to write anything during the cool off time.
- Attempt the questions according to the instructions.

Questions 1-3: Read the excerpt from *A Long Walk with Granny* and answer the questions that follow. **3 x 1=3**

Granny could hear the distant roar of the river and smell the pine needles and feel the presence of her grandson, Mani. She couldn't see the river or the trees. She could only make out Mani's fuzzy hair and sometimes, his blackberry eyes and the gleam of his teeth when he smiled.

Granny wore a pair of old glasses. She'd been wearing them for well over ten years. Her eyes had grown steadily weaker and the glasses were now scratched and spotted. So, there was very little she could see through them. Mani and his father felt that it was high time Granny had her eyes tested and got her new glasses.

1. How did Mani and his father try to solve the problems related to Granny's eye sight?
2. Which among the following is not correct?
 - A. Granny wore a pair of old glasses.
 - B. Granny's eyes had grown steadily weaker.
 - C. Granny's glasses were scratched.
 - D. Mani and his father felt it was not the right time to have Granny's eyes tested.
3. Pick out a word or phrase from the passage which means 'to understand'.

Questions 4-6: Read the lines from *Hope is the Thing with Feathers* and answer the questions that follow. **3 x 1=3**

Hope is the thing with feathers
That perches in the soul,
And sings the tune without the words,
And never stops at all.
 And sweetest in the gale is heard;
 And sore must be the storm
 That could abash the little bird
 That kept so many warm.
I've heard it in the chillest land,
And on the strangest sea;
Yet, never, in extremity,
It asked a crumb of me.

4. Where, according to the poet, does Hope perch?
5. Pick out an example of metaphor from the given lines.

6. What does the bird ask for in return?

- A. The bird doesn't ask for anything in return.
- B. The bird asks for a song in return.
- C. The bird asks for patience and faith in return.
- D. The bird asks for a crumb of bread in return.

7. Read the lines from *The Seven Ages of Man* and write a short paragraph summarising the ideas contained in the lines using the hints given below. 1 x 4 = 4

The sixth age shifts
Into the lean and slipper'd pantaloon,
With spectacles on nose and pouch on side;
His youthful hose, well sav'd, a world too wide
For his shrunk shank; and his big manly voice,
Turning again toward childish treble, pipes
And whistles in his sound.

Last scene of all,
That ends this strange eventful history,
Is second childishness and mere oblivion;
Sans teeth, sans eyes, sans taste, sans everything.

(Hints: William Shakespeare – different stages of human life – physical and emotional changes – literary devices – alliteration – imagery)

Questions 8-10: Read the passage given below and answer the questions that follow. 3 x 1 = 3

The Power of Nature

Nature has always been a powerful force shaping the lives of humans. From gentle rain that nourishes crops to storms that destroy entire towns, nature reminds us that we are just a small part of a vast system. The sun gives us warmth and energy, while rivers and forests provide food, water, and shelter. However, when nature's balance is disturbed, through deforestation, pollution, or burning of fossil fuels, it strikes back with floods, droughts and heatwaves. This climate change poses many risks to human beings and all other forms of life on Earth.

In recent years, scientists have warned that human activities are putting too much pressure on the planet. Cutting down trees for land, burning fuels for energy, and wasting water have caused the Earth's temperature to rise. This not only affects weather patterns but also endangers animals and plants. Yet, it's not too late. By planting trees, using renewable energy, and reducing waste, we can live in harmony with nature again. Respecting nature's power is the first step toward protecting our future.

8. How does nature react when its balance is disturbed?

- i) Nature retaliates with droughts and heatwaves.
- ii) Nature shapes the lives of humans.
- iii) Nature strikes back with floods.
- iv) Nature provides us energy and food.

Choose the correct option:

- A) Only i is correct.
- B) Only iv is correct.
- C) Both i and iii are correct.
- D) All the four statements are correct.

9. What are the main causes that lead to disastrous climate?
10. How can we live in harmony with nature again?

Questions 11-13: Answer either A or B.

11. [A] His first earnings as a newspaper boy fills Abdul Kalam with excitement and a sense of responsibility. He jots down his feelings in his diary. Write the likely **diary entry**.

1 x 4 = 4

OR

- [B] Mani accompanies Granny on her journey to Mussoorie and supports her throughout. Based on your reading of the story *A Long Walk with Granny*, prepare the **character sketch** of Mani.

12. [A] The eye specialist examined Granny and advised her to get a stronger pair of glasses. Prepare the likely **conversation** between Granny and the doctor.

1 x 4 = 4

OR

- [B] Read the picture given below. Prepare a **paragraph** using suitable descriptive adjectives.



13. [A] The bus that Mani and Granny travelled on was old, noisy and uncomfortable. Later Mani decides to write a letter to the Transport Manager requesting better bus services on that route. Draft the likely **letter**.

1 x 4 = 4

OR

- [B] Read the picture given below. Prepare a **paragraph** describing it in the light of your reading of the lesson *Little Things Matter*.



14. Prepare a profile of Dr A. P. J. Abdul Kalam based on the hints given below.

(1 x 4 = 4)

Name	: Dr A.P.J. Abdul Kalam
Birth	: 15 October 1931, Rameswaram, Tamil Nadu
Famous as	: Former President of India, Aerospace scientist, author, professor
Popularly known	: Missile Man of India
Autobiography	: <i>Wings of Fire</i>
Awards	: Bharat Ratna (1997), Padma Vibhushan (1990), Padma Bhushan (1981)
Death	: 27 July 2015

Questions 15-17: Given below are the details of The Best FIFA Football Awards 2025. Study the table and answer the questions that follow.

(3 x 1 = 3)

Player	Country / Club	Award
Ousmane Dembélé	Paris Saint-Germain	Ballon d' Or
Aitana Bonmatí	Barcelona	Ballon d' Or Fe'minin
Luis Enrique	Paris Saint-Germain	The Best Men's Coach
Sarina Wiegman	England	The Best Women's Coach
Santiago Montiel	Club Atlético Independiente	FIFA Puskás Award

15. Which country / club received the maximum number of awards in the table given above?

16. Who won the FIFA Puskás Award in the year 2025?

- A) Ousmane Dembélé.
- B) Santiago Montiel.
- C) Luis Enrique.
- D) None of the above.

17. Name the player who received Ballon d' Or Fe'minin in 2025.

18. Fill in the blanks using appropriate forms of the phrasal verbs given in brackets.

(3 x 1 = 3)

Though I had to _____ (a) before dawn for tuition and bathe as my teacher insisted, I would hang in there and manage both studies and work. After Arabic school, I sprinted to the station and _____ (b) _____ the train's thunderous arrival, ready to catch the bundles. In the evenings, we would _____ (c) _____ the *Dinamani* by the sea, discussing news of the larger world.

(pore over, wake up, carry on, look forward to)

19. Edit the following passage. Errors are given in bold.

(4 x ½ = 2)

In a (a) evening, after school **were** (b) over, I would do the rounds of Samsuddin's customers again, collecting dues. **then** (c) I would meet him, so that he could work out the **accounts** (d) of the day.

20. Complete the conversation between Mani and his Granny.

(3 x 1=3)

Mani : _____ (a) _____ ?

Granny : I have brought pakoras and buns and peaches from Uncle's garden.

Mani : Thank you Granny. We'll eat as we go along.

Granny : OK. You had better _____ (b) _____. There is a possibility of rain.

Mani : I will walk fast. I know your umbrella is leaky.

Granny : If it rains, _____ (c) _____ ?

Mani : We will take shelter somewhere.
